

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention; rejected claims 1, 4, 5, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Nguyen* (U.S. Patent No. 7,036,091) ("*Nguyen*"); and rejected claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Nguyen* in view of Robbins (U.S. Patent No. 6,819,344 B2) ("*Robbins*").

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 3-5, and 7-8; cancels claims 2 and 6; and adds new claims 9 and 10. Applicant respectfully submits that the present amendment to claim 4 renders moot the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 4, 5, and 8 as being allegedly anticipated by *Nguyen*. For example, independent claim 1, as amended, recites a method for displaying an electronic input state on a menu screen comprising, among other things, the steps of:

automatically displaying the selected icon larger than
the other icons positioned on the first ring; and

performing the operation corresponding to the
selected icon.

Nguyen discloses a graphical user interface presenting a first menu including a set of selectable options circumferentially disposed on the first menu (col. 1, lines

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

20-23). As disclosed by *Nguyen*, if a selection is made from the first menu, a second menu is displayed concentrically-disposed relative to the first menu (col. 2, lines 32-35).

The Examiner admits that *Nguyen* fails to disclose a method “wherein said icon displayed at a specific position of said ring is displayed larger than the other icons positioned on the ring” (Office Action at p. 4). The Examiner, however, relies on *Robbins*, at col. 6, lines 15-31, as allegedly disclosing this feature. In particular, the Examiner cites *Robbins* as allegedly disclosing “wherein said icon displayed at a specified position of said ring is displayed larger than the other icons positioned on the ring,” by allegedly disclosing “zooming of a selected part to see details.”

Robbins discloses an interactive visualization of stored data. The visualization includes a representation of a three-dimensional generally helical path extending between spaced apart ends of the path (Abstract). At col. 6, lines 15-31, *Robbins* discloses a zooming component, which adapts the displayed information, such that a user can zoom in to examine details and individual values of data associated with a selected part of the image.

At col. 5, lines 15-26, *Robbins* discloses a system 30, including a user interface component 32 coupled to a control module 34 that receives instructions from the user interface 32 and controls warping and viewing of an image 36 that is created to visualize stored data. In the system disclosed by *Robbins*, a viewing control 40 determines which part of the image 36 (e.g. dimension of the stored data) is to be displayed as a center of interest for user interaction based on the information provided from the control module 34.

Because the method disclosed by *Robbins* simply allows a user to zoom in on data in response to instructions from the user for examining details of data associated with a selected part of the image, *Robbins* fails to disclose or suggest at least the claimed step of “automatically displaying the selected icon larger than the other icons positioned on the first ring,” as recited in amended claim 1.

Neither *Nguyen* nor *Robbins*, taken alone or in any reasonable combination, discloses the method recited in independent claim 1, as now amended. Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of *Nguyen* and *Robbins*. Independent claim 5, although of different scope than claim 1, distinguishes *Nguyen* and *Robbins* for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 3-4 and 7-10 depend from one of the independent claims and distinguish *Nguyen* and *Robbins* for at least the same reasons as independent claims 1 and 5. In addition, each of the dependent claims may recite unique combinations that are neither taught nor suggested by prior art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

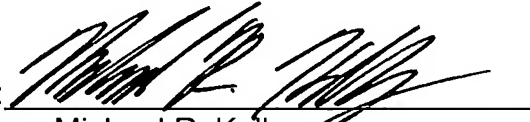
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By:


Michael R. Kelly
Reg. No. 33,921